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Wisbech Rural District Council

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1955.

A N N U A L R E P O R T

O F T H E

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H.

District Council Offices
Alexandra Road,
Wisbech.

M. Doreen Martin,
M.B.Ch.B., D.C.H.

WISBECH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE:-

The Chairman (Mr. R. Payne, J.P.) The Vice -
Chairman (Mr. G.W. Newell) and the full Council.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority:-

Medical Officer of Health -

J.M. HATTENUEW, MB., CHB., MRCS., LRCP., D.P.H.
(resigned November, 1955)

also holds appointments of

Assistant County Medical Officer of Health.
School Medical Officer.

Senior Sanitary Inspector and Surveyor -

T.A.C. MARCH, M.S.I.A.

Additional Sanitary Inspector and Deputy Surveyor -

A.P. GRANT, M.S.I.A.

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WISBECH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER FOR THE YEAR ENDING
31st DECEMBER, 1955.

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

Oncemore it is the duty of the Medical Officer of Health to submit a report on the Public Health and Welfare of the Rural District of Wisbech.

Your previous Medical Officer of Health resigned in early 1956, before a report was begun, and I did not become responsible until July, 1956. I would therefore like to acknowledge the invaluable work of Mr. March, your Public Health Inspector, without whom there could be no report.

I also wish to add my personal thanks to both Mr. March and Mr. Dixon and to their staffs, for all the help I have received since my term of office began.

I am grateful, too, to the Chairman and Members of Council for their kind welcome at my first meetings here.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District	49,841 acres.
Registrar General's estimate of mid year population for 1955	12,360
Estimated mid-year population for 1954	12,350
Estimated mid-year population for 1953	12,280
Rateable value 1st April, 1955	£33,578
Rateable value 1st April, 1954	£33,227
Product of a penny rate	£141.8s.1d.
Number of inhabited houses according to rate books	4069

VITAL STATISTICS.

LIVE BIRTHS - 174.

	M	F	<u>Wisbech R.D.</u> <u>Birth Rate.</u> <u>(adjusted).</u>	<u>Adminis-</u> <u>trative</u> <u>County.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>and Wales</u>
TOTAL	84	90	14.07	15.07	15.0
Legitimate	84	84			
Illegitimate	-	6			

Area comparability Factor (Births) 1.00
(Birth rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident mid-1955 population).

STILL BIRTHS - 5.

	M	F	<u>Wisbech Rural</u> <u>District.</u> <u>Still Birth Rate.</u>	<u>Adminis-</u> <u>trative</u> <u>County.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>and Wales</u>
TOTAL	2	3	27.93	24.79	23.10
Legitimate	2	3			
Illegitimate	-	-			

Rate per 1,000 total (Live and Still) Births.

DEATHS (all causes).

TOTAL	M	F	<u>Wisbech R.D.</u> <u>Death Rate.</u> <u>(adjusted).</u>	<u>Adminis-</u> <u>trative</u> <u>County.</u>	<u>England</u> <u>and Wales</u>
104	56	48	8.32	11.86	11.7

Area comparability Factor (Deaths) 0.99.
(Death Rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident mid-1955 population).

DEATHS - Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion - Nil.

DEATHS - Infants under 1 year of age

	M	F	<u>Wisbech R.D.</u> <u>Infant Mortality</u> <u>Rate.</u>	<u>Adminis-</u> <u>trative</u> <u>County.</u>	<u>Englan</u> <u>and Wales</u>
TOTAL	1	0	5.74	15.706	24.9
Legitimate	1	0			
Illegitimate	-	-			

VITAL STATISTICS (cont'd).

DEATHS of infants under 4 weeks of age - Nil.

DEATHS from Cancer - All ages - 14.

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES.

Isle of Ely Executive Council - Bank House, West End, March.

Clerk - A.R.Marsh, Esq.,

East Anglian Regional Hospital Board - 117, Chesterton Road,

Cambridge - Senior Administrative Medical Officer -
Dr.J.B.Ewen.

(a) GENERAL:

- (1) North Cambridgeshire Hospital, Wisbech.
- (11) Clarkson Hospital, Wisbech.
- (111) Memorial Hospital, Peterborough.
- (1V) Addenbrooks Hospital, Cambridge.
- (V) Doddington Hospital, Doddington.

(b) MATERNITY:

- (1) Bowthorpe Maternity Home, Wisbech.

(c) INFECTIOUS:

- (1) Isolation Hospital, Peterborough.

(d) SANATORIA:

Accommodation is provided through the East Anglian
Regional Hospital Board.

(e) MENTAL:

Accommodation is provided through the East Anglian
Regional Hospital Board.

(f) VENEREAL DISEASE:

- (1) Addenbrooks Hospital, Cambridge.
- (11) Peterborough Memorial Hospital.
- (111) West Norfolk and King's Lynn Hospital.

GENERAL MEDICAL SERVICES (cont'd).

(g) MEDICAL EQUIPMENT SERVICE:

Medical equipment is provided on loan by the St. Johns Ambulance Division and The Red Cross Medical Loan Depot by arrangement with the County Council.

MIDWIFERY, GENERAL SICK NURSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING.

The Nursing Staff is employed by the Isle of Ely County Council, either directly or by arrangement with the County Nursing Association under the National Health Service Act, 1946

In the parishes given all those undertaking midwifery and general nursing are qualified to administer gas/air analgesia and Pethedine and the necessary number of gas/air machines are available for their use.

ELM, UPWELL AND OUTWELL.

Miss G.A. Webster,
Halfpenny Lane,
ELM.
(Wisbech 1806).

S.C.M.
H.V.Cert.
Q.N.

Relief Midwife,
General Nursing,
Public Health Nursing,
School Nurse.

Miss J. Parrott,
10, Crown Avenue,
CHRISTCHURCH.
(Christchurch 280).

S.C.M.
H.V.Cert.
Q.N.

Relief Midwife,
General Nursing,
Public Health Nursing,
School Nurse.

Mrs. J.B.D. Benson,
8, Bungalow,
Gosmoor Lane,
ELM.
(Fridaybridge 246).

S.C.M.

Midwifery Only.

WISBECH ST. MARY AND PARSON DROVE.

Mrs. A.L. Guiver,
"Pitsdale"
LEVERINGTON.
(Wisbech St. Mary 244).

S.R.N.
S.C.M.

Midwifery Only.

Miss M.E. Joynt,
Nurses House,
Church Road,
WISBECH ST. MARY.
(Wisbech St. Mary 249).

S.C.M.
H.V.Cert.
Q.N.

Wisbech St. Mary -
General Nursing On.
Parson Drove -
Public Health Nursing

MIDWIFERY, GENERAL SICK NURSING AND PUBLIC HEALTH NURSING (cont'd).

LEVERINGTON, NEWTON AND TYDD ST. GILES.

Miss E.M. Burdett,
High Road,
GOREFIELD,
Nr. Wisbech.

S.C.M.
Q.N.

Midwifery,
General Nursing.

Miss E.T. Taylor,
Leigh Bank,
Leverington Road,
WISBECH.

S.R.N.
S.C.M.

Health Visitor,
Public Health Nursing
in the Parishes not
covered. School Nurse
for all these Parishes.

Miss G. White,
10, Crown Avenue,
CHRISTCHURCH.
(Christchurch 280).

S.R.N.
Part 1 Mid.Cert.
H.V.Cert.

Tuberculosis
Health Visitor.

AMBULANCE AND HOSPITAL CAR SERVICE.

A County Council Service. There are three ambulances
garaged at Messrs. Dennis Transport, Sutton Road, Leverington.

COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES.

Infant Welfare Centres:

- | | | | |
|-----|---|-------|--------------------------|
| {a} | Wisbech (Walsoken Parish Hall) | | Friday. |
| {b} | Guyhirn (Village Hall) | | 3rd Thursday. |
| {c} | Parson Drove (Church Hall) | | 1st Wednesday. |
| {d} | Leverington (Church Hall) | | 2nd Tuesday. |
| {e} | Fridaybridge (Church Hall) | | 4th Wednesday. |
| {f} | Christchurch (Parish Room) | | 1st and 3rd
Tuesdays. |
| {g} | Newton (Women's Institute)
(Opened July, 1955) | | 1st Thursday. |

School Minor Ailment Clinics:

- | | |
|-----|-------------------------------------|
| {a} | County Clinics, Lynn Road, Wisbech. |
| {b} | Beaupre School, Outwell. |

School Dental Clinic:

- | | |
|-----|---------------------|
| {a} | Lynn Road, Wisbech. |
|-----|---------------------|

Home Help Service:

Organised and operated by County Council.

COUNTY MEDICAL SERVICES (cont'd).

Disinfection and Disinfestation:

Premises - by the Senior Sanitary Inspector's Staff.
Bedding, clothing, etc., which cannot be dealt with by this department are sent to Peterborough Isolation Hospital.

Laboratory Services:

- (a) Public Health Laboratory Service,
Tennis Court Road,
Cambridge.
(Director - Dr. Fry).
- (b) Public Analyst,
S. Greenburgh, P.H.D.B.Sc., F.R.I.C.,
25, St. Barnabas Road, Cambridge.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Notifications.

Dysentery	1
Typhoid Fever	0
Paratyphoid Fever	0
Meningococcal Infection	1
Scarlet Fever	4
Whooping Cough	58
Diphtheria	0
Erysipelas	1
Smallpox	0
Measles	73
Pneumonia	0
Acute Poliomyelitis (including Polioencephalitis)	
Paralytic	2
Non-paralytic	4
Food Poisoning	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0
Tuberculosis (all forms)	10
Malaria	0
Infective Jaundice	1
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	1

HOUSING.

Number of houses completed during 1955:-

Council Houses	14	Private	22.
Bungalows	<u>4</u>		
	<u>18</u>		

Number of houses under construction at end of 1955:-

Council Houses	26	Private	15.
Bungalows	<u>4</u>		
	<u>30</u>		

UNFIT HOUSES.

There are approximately 420 unfit houses in the district which can be and are being dealt with individually by the making of demolition orders as these houses become vacant or it is possible to rehouse the tenants in Council houses.

During the year demolition orders were made upon 7 houses, undertakings were given not to use for human habitation in respect of 5 houses, and Closing Orders were made upon 3 houses.

WATER SUPPLY.

During the year ending March 31st, 1955 1,133 yards of water main were laid whilst during the year ended March 31st, 1956 12,473 yards of main were laid, the considerable increase being due to the laying of a 12" main through Christchurch on its way to Wimblington which effected a much needed improvement to the water supply position in this area.

During the year 101 new connections were made. Chemical and Bacteriological examinations made during the year showed that the high standard of purity was maintained.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND CESSPOOL EMPTYING.

A fortnightly collection of household refuse covers practically the entire district, being available to some 3,150 houses.

One cesspool emptier is fully occupied throughout the year.

I have the honour to be Madam & Gentlemen,
Your obedient servant,

H. Green & Martin

Medical Officer of Health.

CAUSES OF DEATH 1955.

<u>Causes of Death.</u>	<u>Male.</u> <u>55.</u>	<u>Female.</u> <u>55.</u>	<u>Total</u> <u>55.</u>
Tuberculosis, respiratory	0	0	0
Tuberculosis, other	0	0	0
Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	1	1
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus ..	1	0	1
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	1	1
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	4	6	10
Leukeamia, aleukeamia	2	0	2
Diabetes	0	1	1
Vascular lesions of nervous system ..	14	7	21
Coronary disease, angina	12	1	13
Hypertension with heart disease	1	3	4
Other heart disease	8	12	20
Other circulatory disease	3	3	6
Influenza	0	0	0
Pneumonia	0	3	3
Bronchitis	3	1	4
Other diseases of respiratory system.	0	0	0
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	0	0	0
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea ..	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	0	0
Hyperplasia of prostate	2	0	2
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformations	0	0	0
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	3	3	6
Motor vehicle accidents	0	1	1
All other accidents	1	2	3
Suicide	2	1	3
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
All causes	56	48	104

NEW CASES AND DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS 1955.

<u>Age Period</u> <u>(years).</u>	<u>New Cases.</u>				<u>Deaths.</u>			
	<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>		<u>Respiratory.</u>		<u>Non-Respiratory.</u>	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
- 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1 - 5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6 - 15	-	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
16 - 25	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
26 - 35	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
36 - 45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
46 - 55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
56 - 65	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 x								
Totals	2	7	-	1	-	-	-	-

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors).

Premises. (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Inspect ions (4)	Number of Written Notices (5)	Occ. Prs'ctd (6)	M/c line No. (7)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	49	39			1
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	35	59	1		2
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises).	3	-				3
Total		84	98	1	-	

FACTORIES ACT, 1937 and 1948 (cont'd).

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found.			Pros M/c cut line ed. No.	
		Found	Remed ied.	Referred.		
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	Tc H.M. Inspect (5)	By H.M. Inspect (6)	(7) (8)
Want of cleanliness (s.1)	4	1	1	-	-	- 4
Overcrowding (s.2)	5	-	-	-	-	- 5
Unreasonable temper- ature (s.3)	6	-	-	-	-	- 6
Inadequate ventailation (s.4)	7	-	-	-	-	- 7
Ineffective drainage of Floors (s.6)	8	-	-	-	-	- 8
Sanitary conveniences (s.7)						
(a) Insufficient	9	-	-	-	-	- 9
(b) Unsuitable or defective	10	1	1	-	1	- 10
(c) Not separate for sexes	11	-	-	-	-	- 11
Other offences against the Act (not includ- ing offences relating to Outwork).	12	-	-	-	-	- 12
Totals ...		2	2	-	1	-

MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle, exclud- ing Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep and Lambs.	Pigs.	Horses
Number killed (if known)	70	16	-	65	511	-
Number inspected	70	16	-	65	511	-
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci.</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	14	2	-	18	204	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tubercul- osis and cysticerci.	20%	12.5	-	27.7	40%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u>						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	6	1	-	-	21	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	8.5	6.25	-	-	4.1	-
<u>Cysticercosis:</u>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned.	-	-	-	-	-	-

